

REPORT OF PORT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1949

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to report:

I. Amount of Shipping Entering the Port during the Year 1949Table A

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>Number inspected By the Medical Officer of Health</u>	<u>By the Sanitary Inspect- or.</u>	<u>Number reported to be de- fective.</u>	<u>Number of vessels on which de- fects were remedied.</u>
<u>Foreign</u> (Steamers (*Motor.. Sailing. Fishing.	13	1552	1	4		
<u>Total Foreign.</u>	13	1552	1	4		
<u>Coastwise</u> (Steamers (*Motor.. Sailing. Fishing.	606	52421	5	109	1	1
<u>Total Coastwise.</u>	606	52421	5	109	1	1
<u>Total Foreign and Coastwise for the Port</u>	619	53973	6	113	1	1

Number of Vessels reported as having, or having had, during) the voyage infectious disease on board) None.

*Includes mechanically propelled vessels other than steamers.

II. Character of Trade of PortTable B(a) Passenger Traffic during 1949N I L(b) Cargo TrafficPrincipal Imports

Timber. Grain. Oil.
Slag. General. Coal.

Principal Exports

Gravel.
Clay.
Grain.

III. Source of Water Supply

(a) For the Port. Barnstaple U.D. W.W.) Bideford " ") Northam " ")	(b) For Shipping. Ditto.	(c) <u>Number of water boats and their sanitary condition.</u> None.
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IV. Infectious Disease

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| (1) Arrangements for detection of infectious disease on inward vessels. | Boarded by Inspector and Officer of H.M. Customs at Appledore. Reported to M.O. at Appledore, who deals with disease. Customs informed by flag. |
| (2) Arrangements for notification to the P.S.A. of the arrival of inward vessels requiring special attention. (Wireless messages, land signal stations, information from agents, pilots, Customs, etc.) | |

IV. Infectious Disease, (Contd.)

(3) What vessels are boarded on arrival, by whom, where and how.	All foreign by Customs Officer in Pool at Appledore.
(4) Arrangements for disposal of cases of infectious disease and for observation or surveillance of contacts.	Bideford Isolation Hospital.
(5) Arrangements for disinfection of infected quarters, bedding, clothing, &c.	Sulphur fumigation on board.
(6) Arrangements for cleansing of persons.	No station on shore.
(7) Arrangements for ambulance transport.	Barnstaple or Bideford Motor Ambulance.
(8) Arrangements for detection and treatment of Venereal Disease amongst sailors.	Medical Officer inspects; sends to Clinic at Barnstaple.
(9) Arrangements for bacteriological examination of rats.	County Analyst.
(10) Arrangements for other bacteriological examinations.	Ditto.

Table C

Cases of Infectious Sickness landed from Vessels

<u>Disease</u>	<u>No. of Cases during 1949.</u>		<u>No. of Vessels concerned.</u>	<u>Average No. of Cases for previous 5 years.</u>
	<u>Passengers</u>	<u>Crew</u>		
Tuber- culosis	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

Table D

Cases of Infectious Sickness occurring on Vessels during the voyage but disposed of prior to arrival

<u>Disease</u>	<u>No. of Cases during 1949.</u>		<u>No. of Vessels concerned.</u>	<u>Average No. of Cases for previous 5 years.</u>
	<u>Passengers</u>	<u>Crew</u>		
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

If any case of Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox or Typhus occurred, or if plague-infected rats were discovered during 1949, a short account should be given of the steps taken to deal with them. None.

V. Measures against Rodents

(1) Steps taken for detection of rodent plague (a) In ships in the port. (b) On Quays, wharves, warehouses, &c., in the vicinity of the port.	Inspection.
(2) Measures taken to prevent the passage of rats between ships and the shore.	Shields on wires, chains, etc.
(3) Methods of deratisation of (a) Ships. (b) Premises in the vicinity of docks or quays.	None.
(4) Measures taken for the detection of rat prevalence in ships and on shore.	Inspection.

V. Measures against Rodents (Contd.)

- (5) Rat-proofing. (a) To what extent are docks, wharves, warehouses, &c., rat proof? None.
- (6) (b) Action taken to extend rat-proofing Orders given to
(i) in ships; (ii) on shore. Captains.

Rats destroyed during 1949

None

VI. Hygiene of Crews' Spaces

Table J

Classification of Nuisances

<u>Nationality of Vessel.</u>	<u>Number inspected during 1949</u>	<u>Defects of original construction</u>	<u>Structural defects through wear & tear</u>	<u>Dirt, Vermin & other conditions prejudicial to health</u>
British	122	Nil.	Nil.	1
Other Nations ..	13	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

VII. Food Inspection

- (1) Action taken under the Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1925; The Public Health (Imported Milk) Regulations 1926; The Public Health (Preservatives, &c., in Food) Regulations, 1925 to 1927.
- (2) Shell-fish. Information respecting any shell-fish beds or laying within the jurisdiction of the P.H.A., stating whether they are, in the opinion of the Medical Officer, liable to pollution. Report of any action taken under the Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1915, or the Public Health (Cleansing of Shell-fish) Act 1932.
- Shell-fish beds at junction of Taw and Torridge polluted by Sewage. Ban on sale of Mussels for human consumption. A quantity being sold for bait.

(Signed) D. S. VALENTINE,

Medical Officer.

Port of Barnstaple & Bideford Health Authority.

